Application No.: 10/596737 Case No.: 59463US005

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Original) A slidingly detachable core member for use within an elastic tube, comprising a hollow cylindrical body and a sliding material associated with said body for reducing friction between said body and an elastic tube encompassing said body, characterized in that:

an extension is provided in said body and extends outward, to transmit external force, for detachment of said body from the elastic tube, to said body.

- 2. (Original) A slidingly detachable core member according to claim 1, wherein said sliding material includes a sheet-like sliding member arranged on an outer peripheral surface of said body.
- 3. (Original) A slidingly detachable core member according to claim 2, wherein said sliding member is formed separately from said body and attached to said body.
- 4. (Original) A slidingly detachable core member according to claim 2, wherein said sliding member comprises a molded film with self-sliding property arranged to be folded on said outer peripheral surface of said body in a condition where said body is placed in an operable position to be encompassed within the elastic tube; said molded film being shaped to substantially cover a working region, encompassed within the elastic tube, in said outer peripheral surface of said body placed in said operable position.
- 5. (Original) A slidingly detachable core member according to claim 4, wherein said molded film includes cutouts for locally exposing said working region of said outer peripheral surface of said body.

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6. (Original) A slidingly detachable core member according to claim 1, wherein said body includes a plurality of plate-like elements assembled together to form a hollow cylindrical body, and wherein said extension has flexibility in itself and joins said plate-like elements shiftably relative to each other.

7. (Original) A cold shrink tube unit comprising an elastic tube member having an opening end, and a hollow cylindrical core member detachably arranged within a seal region of said elastic tube member defined in a predetermined length from said opening end to hold said seal region in an elastically expanding state, characterized in that:

said core member is comprised of a slidingly detachable core member according to claim 1; and

said slidingly detachable core member is arranged to be encompassed within said seal region with said extension projecting outward from said opening end of said elastic tube member.

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